

tokioka2-Robert

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Tuesday, April 21, 2015 11:04 AM
To: vmitestimony
Cc: mendezj@hawaii.edu
Subject: *Submitted testimony for SCR57 on Apr 23, 2015 11:00AM*

SCR57

Submitted on: 4/21/2015

Testimony for VMI on Apr 23, 2015 11:00AM in Conference Room 312

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Javier Mendez-Alvarez	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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DAVID Y. IGE
GOVERNOR OF HAWAII



**STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES**

POST OFFICE BOX 621
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**Testimony of
CARTY S. CHANG
Interim Chairperson**

**Before the House Committee on
VETERANS, MILITARY & INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS & CULTURE AND THE
ARTS**

**Thursday, April 23, 2015
11:00 AM
State Capitol, Conference Room 312**

**In consideration of
SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION 57, SENATE DRAFT 1, HOUSE DRAFT 1
EXPANDING THE TASK FORCE STUDY OF THE EFFECTS OF THE JANUARY 2014
FUEL TANK LEAK AT THE RED HILL UNDERGROUND FUEL STORAGE FACILITY,
ESTABLISHED UNDER SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 73, H.D. 1,
REGULAR SESSION OF 2014, TO INCLUDE AN ADDITIONAL TWENTY-SIX
UNDERGROUND FUEL STORAGE TANKS IN THE STATE
OWNED BY THE UNITED STATES MILITARY**

Senate Concurrent Resolution 57, Senate Draft 1, House Draft 1 proposes to expand the task force study of the effects of the January 2014 fuel tank leak at the Red Hill underground fuel storage facility to include an additional twenty-six underground fuel storage tanks in the state owned by the United States Military and to continue to monitor the United States Navy's plans for remediation of the Red Hill facility fuel tanks. **The Department of Land and Natural Resources (Department) supports this measure but defers to the Department of Health on its implementation and offers the following comments.**

Our underground aquifers are the major source of drinking water for the people of Hawaii. We have a public trust obligation to protect and preserve the quality and sustainability of this valuable resource for current and future generations.

Underground storage tanks are a potential major threat to the public trust water resources of the State. It is critical that all owners and operators of underground storage tanks regularly monitor for leaks using approved methods, maintain adequate records, and meet corrosion protection, spill, and overfill requirements as required by the Department of Health. These systems are prone to leak over time, as evidenced by the recent case regarding the Red Hill fuel storage tanks.

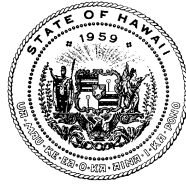
CARTY S. CHANG
INTERIM CHAIRPERSON
BOARD OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES
COMMISSION ON WATER RESOURCE MANAGEMENT

KEKOA KALUHIWA
FIRST DEPUTY

W. ROY HARDY
ACTING DEPUTY DIRECTOR - WATER

AQUATIC RESOURCES
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LAND
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The Department notes that a representative from the Department's Commission on Water Resource Management participated on the Red Hill Task Force that was led by the Department of Health.



STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH
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Testimony in SUPPORT of S.C.R. 57, S.D. 1, H.D. 1

**EXPANDING THE TASK FORCE STUDY OF THE EFFECTS OF THE JANUARY 2014
FUEL TANK LEAK AT THE RED HILL UNDERGROUND FUEL STORAGE
FACILITY, ESTABLISHED UNDER SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 73,
H.D.1, REGULAR SESSION OF 2014, TO INCLUDE AN ADDITIONAL TWENTY-SIX
UNDERGROUND FUEL STORAGE TANKS IN THE STATE OWNED BY THE
UNITED STATES MILITARY**

REPRESENTATIVE KEN ITO, CHAIR
HOUSE COMMITTEE ON VETERANS, MILITARY, AND INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS,
AND CULTURE AND THE ARTS

Hearing Date: **April 23, 2015**
Time: **11:00 A.M.**

Room Number: **312**

1 **Fiscal Implications:** None

2 **Department Testimony:** The Department of Health (DOH) supports SCR 57 which proposes to
3 extend the task force studying the effects of the January 2014 Red Hill fuel tank leak to include
4 an additional twenty-six (26) underground fuel storage tanks owned by the United States
5 military.

6 The DOH is committed to taking measures required to prevent the future releases from all
7 underground storage tanks. In an effort to address the challenges presented at Red Hill, the U.S.
8 Navy, Defense Logistics Agency, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and the DOH are
9 committed to completing the ongoing negotiations that are designed to produce an
10 Administrative Order on Consent (AOC). The AOC is intended to establish a process to make
11 well-researched, well-planned and cost-effective improvements to protect the groundwater
12 resources beneath the Red Hill Bulk Fuel Storage Facility. At this time, we believe that this
13 collaborative, enforceable approach provides a preferred way to address the environmental
14 concerns posed by this facility.

15 Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this resolution.

16

BOARD OF WATER SUPPLY

CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU
630 SOUTH BERETANIA STREET
HONOLULU, HI 96843



April 23, 2015

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Manager and Chief Engineer

ELLEN E. KITAMURA, P.E.
Deputy Manager and Chief Engineer

The Honorable Ken Ito, Chair
and Members
Committee on Veterans, Military, and International Affairs,
and Culture and the Arts
House of Representatives
Hawaii State Capitol Room 312
415 South Beretania Street
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Chair and Members:

Subject: Senate Concurrent Resolution 57, SD 1 HD 1: Expanding the Task Force Study of the Effects of the January 2014 Fuel Tank Leak at the Red Hill Underground Fuel Storage Facility, established under Senate Concurrent Resolution No. 73, HD 1, Regular Session of 2014, to include an additional Twenty-Six Underground Fuel Storage Tanks in the State owned by the United States Military

We strongly support Senate Concurrent Resolution 57, SD1, HD 1. This resolution expands the Red Hill Fuel Facility Task Force's area of study to include twenty-six underground fuel storage tanks in the state owned by the United States Military and to continue monitoring the United States Navy's plans for remediation of the Red Hill facility fuel tanks.

We understand these twenty-six underground fuel tanks, in addition to those at Red Hill, are field-constructed tanks (FCTs) that have been operating exempt from the regulatory requirements that must be met by all other owners of underground fuel storage tanks. According to the United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), FCTs are very large and pose a substantial threat to human health and the environment (Federal Register, Vol. 76, No. 223, p. 71732). Studies and groundwater monitor well test results already show fuel releases at Red Hill, the largest FCT in the state, have already contaminated the groundwater and soil underneath the facility with petroleum hydrocarbons. Other studies and examinations on Red Hill find the original steel tanks wearing from corrosion, concerned with the facility's mounting age and discuss the risks of a large catastrophic fuel release. These findings can mean losing a major source of drinking water if the study and mitigation necessary to protect the entire aquifer is not identified.

The Honorable Ken Ito, Chair and Members
April 23, 2015
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Oahu's groundwater aquifers are natural resources held in trust for the benefit of the people under Section 1, Article XI of the Hawaii State Constitution. Section 7 of this Article further states "the State has an obligation to protect, control and regulate the use of Hawaii's water resources for the benefit of its people." Our groundwater's protection from contamination is therefore a public trust responsibility and essential to public health and safety through its ability to sustainably deliver safe drinking water.

This resolution affirms our duty to safeguard and protect our groundwater from contamination sources that we can identify, mitigate, and prevent. Groundwater is our only large source of drinking water. There are no other natural resources or cost effective alternatives that can produce the same amount of water to take its place. Its protection from contamination, preservation and sustainability must therefore be maintained without exception for the benefit of Oahu's residents now and into the future.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

Very truly yours,



ERNEST Y. W. LAU, P.E.
Manager and Chief Engineer